

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

MBFR-03 SAJ-01 OMB-01 ACDA-19 IO-13 RSR-01 /128 W
----- 041392

R 081552 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5620

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

UNCLAS BONN 8253

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, GW

SUBJECT: THE PRESENT STATUS OF THE BONN SCANDAL

REF: BONN 7952

1. SUMMARY: AS EXPECTED, THE BUNDESTAG HAS AGREED TO
CREATE A SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF INVESTIGATION TO LOOK INTO
THE ALLEGATIONS THAT DEPUTIES WERE BRIBED ON THE
OCCASION OF THE NO- CONFIDENCE VOTE IN BRANDT IN APRIL
1972. END SUMMARY

2. THE END OF THE FIRST WEEK OF RUMORS OF POSSIBLE
BRIBERY INVOLVED IN THE NO- CONFIDENCE VOTE IN CHANCELLOR
BRANDT LAST APRIL FINDS THE MATTER ON ALL FRONT PAGES.
AMONG OTHER BITS AND PIECES WHICH MAY OR MAY NOT BE TRUE
ARE THESE RATHER IMPORTANT ALLEGATIONS. FORMER FDP
BUNDESTAG DEPUTY WALTER PETERS HAS SAID THAT HE OFFERED
FDP DEPUTY WILHELM HELMS (NOW CDU) 100,000 MARKS IF HE
WOULD NOT DEFECT TO THE CDU. PETERS SAID FURTHER THAT
THE IDEA HAD BEEN HIS ALONE AND HAD NOT BEEN DISCUSSED
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WITH ANY OTHER PERSON AND THAT INDEED IT WAS NOT A GENUINE OFFER BUT ONLY A TEMPORIZING MANEUVER. FORMER SPD BUNDESTAG DEPUTY BAEUCHLE SAYS THAT THE RUMOR THAT SPD BUNDETAG WHIP WIENAND HAD OFFERED 200,000 TO 250,000 MARKS TO THEN CDU BUNDESTAG DEPUTY STEINER IF STEINER WOULD VOTE FOR THE EASTERN TREATIES IS INDEED TRUE. BAEUCHLE SAYS THAT THE CONVERSATION BETWEEN WIENAND AND STEINER TOOK PLACE IN BAEUCHLE'S OWN HOUSE. WIENAND SAYS THAT IT ISN'T SO.

3. IN THE MEANTIME, BUNDESTAG PRESIDENT ANNEMARIE RENGER HAS DECIDED NOT TO PERMIT AN INSPECTION OF THE BALLOTS USED IN THE NO- CONFIDENCE VOTE ON THE GROUND THAT THEY MAY BE CALLED AS EVIDENCE BY THE COMMITTEE OF INVESTIGATION TO BE FORMED. THE ALLEGATION IS THAT TWO OF THE BALLOTS ARE MARKED SO AS TO INDICATE THAT THE TWO CDU OFFICIALS ALLEGEDLY HAD CARRIED OUT THEIR END OF THE BARGAIN.

4. ON THE MORNING OF JUNE 8 THE BUNDESTAG AGREED TO FORM AN INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE ON JUNE 22 AND TO USE THE INTERVENING TIME TO DETERMINE THE GROUND RULES, IN PARTICULAR THE RULES OF ADMISSIBLE EVIDENCE, FOR THE COMMITTEE. INDICATIONS ARE THAT THE WORKING OUT OF THESE GROUND RULES WILL BE HOTLY CONTESTED. IN ANY CASE IT APPEARS UNLIKELY THAT THE COMMITTEE WILL BEGIN ITS DELIBERATIONS UNTIL SEPTEMBER. HILLENBRAND

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